

**Clark Fork River
Operable Unit of the
Milltown Reservoir
Clark Fork River
Superfund Site**

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Cleanup Update

October 2011

Remediation and Restoration Developments

Residential Yard Removals

Soil sampling in fall 2009 identified residential yards along the Clark Fork River in Deer Lodge and on Eastside Road in Powell County with elevated levels of arsenic and/or lead. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) removed approximately 13,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil from 15 properties in fall 2010 and spring and summer 2011. The top 6 to 24 inches of yard soil was excavated. The yards were replaced with clean soil and revegetated. DEQ would like to thank the landowners, citizens of Powell County, the City of Deer Lodge and Powell County for their patience and cooperation during this project.



Same yard as below with clean soil, sod, willow cuttings and replaced trees, summer 2011

Public safety is our number one concern and we appreciate public support of this project.



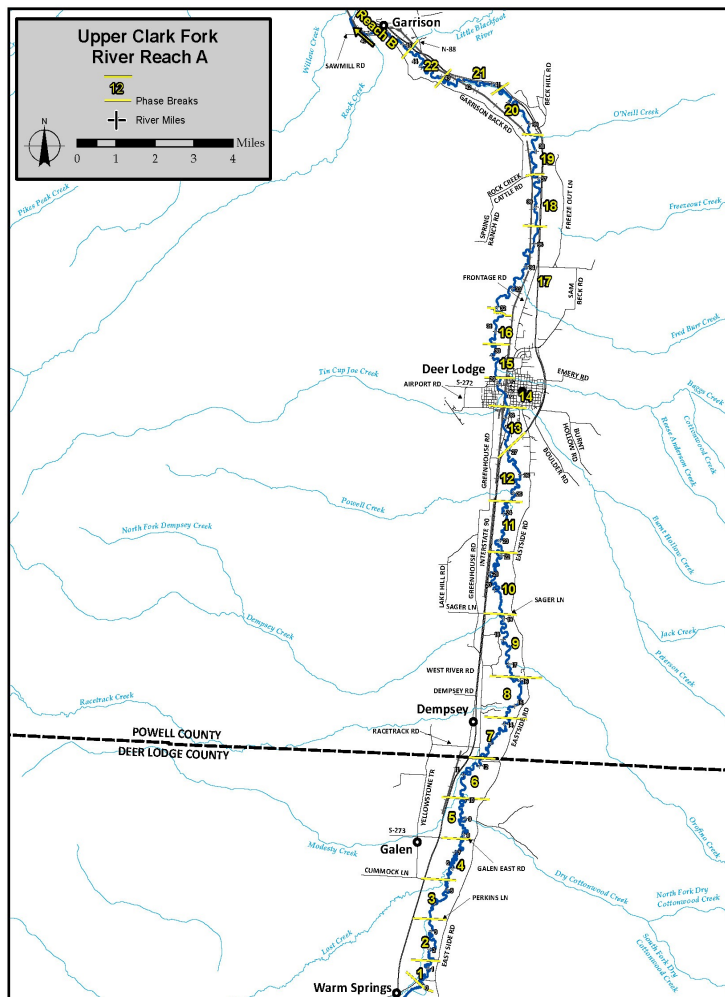
Removing contaminated soil from residential yard and rebuilding stream banks, summer 2011

Next—The Trestle (Also known as Bum Bridge)

Cleanup at the Trestle Area located in Deer Lodge is scheduled to begin in mid-October. The cleanup includes removing approximately 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils with higher than acceptable residential levels of arsenic (150 mg/kg). The contaminated soils will be replaced with clean soil. In addition, approximately 1,000 feet of stream bank will be reconstructed and revegetated. This cleanup is being coordinated with Powell County's future land use planning for this area and with EPA cleanup at the adjacent Milwaukee Roundhouse Site.

Please Note: It will be necessary to limit pedestrian access to this site during construction and until the vegetation becomes established. Floater access on the river may be limited during construction. We appreciate your understanding.





Remedial Design Sampling

DEQ has divided the Reach A of the Clark Fork River into "Phases." (See map). These Phases allow DEQ to develop site specific cleanup designs for various sections of river. As of the end of 2011, DEQ will have completed design level sampling of Phases 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 15 & 16 where access was granted. This allows for long term project planning.

Reach A, Phase I Design

DEQ is currently developing a Preliminary Design Plan (PDP) for the uppermost section of the Clark Fork River Operable Unit (Phase I), which is near Warm Springs. DEQ will host a Design Review Team meeting in early 2012 to discuss the design.

Attention Contractors

To be considered for bid, a contractor must meet several criteria, including but not limited to, being bonded and insured, a registered contractor with the State of Montana, and trained (40 hours) in emergency hazardous waste operations (HAZWOPER). The DEQ will develop designs for various stages of the work. When a design is complete, the construction project will be put out for bid on the DEQ website at www.deq.mt.gov. Typically, the bid is open for 30 to 60 days. The DEQ will respond to questions and hold a pre-bid conference. The sealed bids are opened in public. The DEQ selects the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

Upcoming 2012 Activities

Pastures

We are currently working on a plan to remediate large areas of pasture lands adjacent to the residential yards discussed on page 1. The pasture lands were contaminated by historic flood irrigation from the Eastside ditch. These areas were sampled in spring 2010. Remediation will establish self-sustaining vegetation and reduce blowing dust. It is tentatively set to take place in spring 2012.

The Clark Fork River Operable Unit (CFR OU) is part of the Milltown Reservoir/Clark Fork River Superfund Site. The CFR OU includes the Clark Fork River from its headwaters near Warm Springs Creek to Milltown Reservoir, just east of Missoula. The heavy metals (Cadmium, Copper, Zinc, and Lead) and arsenic in the Clark Fork River are from historic mining, milling and smelting processes linked to the Anaconda Company operations in Butte and Anaconda.

The majority of the cleanup will occur along a 43 mile stretch of the river from Warm Springs in Anaconda/Deer Lodge County downstream to Garrison in Powell County. This is known as "Reach A." The primary sources of contamination are tailings mixed with soil in the stream banks and historic floodplain. These sources threaten human health and animal and plant life.



Clark Fork River with contamination in background

